



Citizens Clean Elections Commission Bulletin

Volume 3, Quarter 3

August 2006

Message from the Chair



As the summer comes to an end, the Commission has been busy gearing up for the upcoming elections. Many candidates are busy finalizing the last of their \$5 qualifying contributions to ensure that they are submitted by the August 31 deadline. Participation in Clean Elections continues to increase as 137 of the candidates running in this year's statewide and legislative elections are participating as Clean Elections candidates. The continued increase in the participation in Clean Elections further demonstrates that the citizens of Arizona recognize the positive change the Act has initiated in the state's political process.

This fall the Commission will be sponsoring general election debates for all districts with a competitive race. This is the fourth time since the Act's inception that the Commission has sponsored these debates and is a tremendous opportunity for voters to engage candidates. The primary election debates were completed earlier this month and the general debate schedule is listed on our website (www.azcleanelections.gov). All of the debates will be taped and available on the Commission website.

Lastly, every household with at least one registered voter will soon be receiving the Citizens Clean Elections Commission's *2006 General Election Candidate Statements Pamphlet*. This pamphlet includes a 200 word statement and picture from every candidate who wished to participate in this project. This is one more step the Commission is taking to ensure that all Arizonans have the opportunity to become involved in the election process.

Time is flying as early voting has already begun. I encourage everyone to become involved in the election process and to contact the Commission office if you have any questions or need additional information. This is your State; let your voice be heard!

Sincerely,
Marcia Busching

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This Bulletin is intended to be an informational tool used to update parties regarding the Commissions' projects and developments. If you have further questions, feel free to call the Commission directly and speak with any staff member at 1-602-364-3477 or toll free at 1-877-631-8891. As a state agency, we are here to serve you.

State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission

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Candidate Statement Pamphlet

In addition to providing limited regulated funding for campaigns and organizing candidate debates, the Commission is also responsible for compiling a candidate statement pamphlet for the primary and general election.

The primary candidate statement pamphlet was released on July 19, both in print and online versions and is available in both English and Spanish. Each household with at least one registered voter will receive the pamphlets.

To download a copy of the primary election pamphlet visit the Commission website at www.azcleanelections.gov.

The deadline to submit a statement for the General Candidate Statement Pamphlet is quickly approaching. Midnight August 24th is the deadline to ensure that a statement will be published. If a candidate has trouble submitting or has any further questions regarding the pamphlet please contact Mike Becker, Voter Education Manager, or Colleen McGee, Deputy Director, at 602-364-3477 or 1-877-631-8891

News and Notes

The Commission is helping voters learn more about statewide and legislative candidates running for office by hosting both primary and general election debates with general election debates scheduled to begin in September. These debates, held throughout Arizona, are sponsored by the Commission and various sponsoring organizations. The Commission and participating sponsors hosted more than 20 debates across the state during the primary election and plan to host another 30 debates during the general election.

The Commission's primary and general election debates are open to both Clean Elections (participating) candidates and traditional candidates who are not participating in the Clean Elections program. Participating candidates are required to participate in the debates as part of their agreement when using Clean Elections funds, ensuring that the constituents in that district have an opportunity to hear the candidate's platforms on a variety of public policy issues.

The schedule for the upcoming general election debates this fall is available on the Commission's website, www.azcleanelections.gov.

For the first time, the Commission has partnered with the local PBS affiliate KAET-TV to broadcast all of the Commission-sponsored debates during the 2006 election season. KAET will be onsite to film all of the candidate debates for the statewide and legislative races during both the primary and general elections. The station will broadcast several debates live, with all debate videos available for download on the Commission's website at www.azcleanelections.gov.



Please visit the Citizens Clean Elections Commission website at www.azcleanelections.gov to view the latest Commission news. You may also access publications such as the Act, Rules & Policies Manual.

While you are visiting the Commission website, please take a moment to sign up to receive e-mail newsletters at www.azcleanelections.gov/linkto.asp?linkId=47.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Voter Education Manager, Mike Becker, at (602) 364-3477, ext 210.

Topic of the Quarter**\$5 Qualifying Contribution Deadline****§ 16-946 Qualifying contributions**

- A. During the qualifying period, a participating candidate may collect qualifying contributions, which shall be paid to the fund.
- B. To qualify as a “qualifying contribution,” a contribution must be:
1. Made by a qualified elector as defined in section 16-121, who at the time of the contribution is registered in the electoral district of the office the candidate is seeking and who has not given another qualifying contribution to that candidate during that election cycle;
 2. Made by a person who is not given anything of value in exchange for the qualifying contribution;
 3. In the sum of five dollars, exactly;
 4. Received unsolicited during the qualifying period or solicited during the qualifying period by a person who is not employed or retained by the candidate and who is not compensated to collect contributions by the candidate or on behalf of the candidate;
 5. If made by check or money order, made payable to the candidate’s campaign committee, or if in cash, deposited in the candidate’s campaign committee’s account; and
 6. Accompanied by a three-part reporting slip that includes the printed name, registration address, and signature of the contributor, the name of the candidate for whom the contribution is made, the date, and the printed name and signature of the solicitor.
- C. A copy of the reporting slip shall be given as a receipt to the contributor, and another copy shall be retained by the candidate’s campaign committee. Delivery of an original reporting slip to the Secretary of State shall excuse the candidate from disclosure of these contributions on campaign finance reports filed under article 1 of this chapter.

The deadline for submitting all \$5 contributions is quickly approaching and candidates must submit all of their information by **August 31** to qualify for Commission funding. Statewide candidates began collecting \$5 qualifying contributions for their campaign as of August 1, 2005, while legislative candidates were permitted to start collecting as of January 1, 2006.

The \$5 contribution is a critical element to the Clean Election Act, allowing voters to directly participate in the political process. The \$5 contribution ensures that voters have a stake in the election process and that their voice can be heard. Voters may contribute to more than one candidate if they choose, and political party affiliation of the candidate or of registered voter does not matter.

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Thank you very much for taking the time to read our third quarter *Bulletin*! The *Bulletin* is published once a quarter and is posted on the Commission's website.

Visit us on the Web!
www.azcleelections.gov

2006 Third Quarter Commission Meeting Schedule

Citizens Clean Elections Commission

Commissioners

Marcia Busching, Chair
Ermila Jolley
Gary Scaramazzo
Carl Kunasek
Royann Parker

Commission meetings are held in the Citizens Clean Elections Commission conference room at 1616 W. Adams in Phoenix.

Please contact the Commission or check the Commission website, www.azcleelections.gov to confirm meeting dates and times.

The Commission meeting minutes and agendas are available free of charge on the Commission website. Additionally, past minutes and agendas are posted on the website.

Upcoming Meetings

August 24

Thursday, 9:30am

September 14

Thursday, 9:30am

September 28

Thursday, 9:30am

Please refer to www.azcleelections.gov
for agendas & additional documents